

FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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 TO: Department of State 611.6826/9-651  
 OM: ZAGREB 39 September 6, 1951 1 Enclosure  
 OF: Transmitting Croatian newspaper article entitled: "In Croatia Material is Being Collected against War Criminal ARTUKOVIC."

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Attached is a translation from the Zagreb newspaper Vjesnik of September 4, 1951, which tells of the satisfaction with which the people in Croatia have received the news of ARTUKOVIC's arrest by the United States authorities. Vjesnik states that the arrest "is being considered as proof that the American authorities have no intention to protect people who committed innumerable crimes against the people of Yugoslavia." It also mentions that extensive material proving Artukovic's crimes has been collected to be presented to the American court which, according to the existing extradition Convention between the United States and Yugoslavia, must be submitted to the American court within two months after the arrest of the defendant.

Announcements of Artukovic's arrest by the American authorities have also appeared in other Croatian newspapers as well as in the Slovenian and Bosnia-Hercegovinian press.

*Charles P. McVicker, Jr.*  
 Charles P. McVicker, Jr.  
 American Consul

Enclosure: *att*

Translation of Vjesnik article on Artukovic, dated Sept. 4, 1951.

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ENCLOSURE 39 September 4, 1951 Enclosure

(C O P Y)

Translation Summary

VJESNIK, Zagreb, September 4, 1951

In Croatia material is being collected against the war criminal Artukovic.

The public in Croatia received with great satisfaction the news that Artukovic will be put before court on September 10. Artukovic's arrest is being considered as proof that the American authorities have no intention to protect people who committed innumerable crimes against the people of Yugoslavia.

The Veteran's organization of Croatia, counting about 400,000 members, had received lately many requests demanding the punishment of Artukovic. One request asking for his punishment came from Stara Gradiska, where 80,000 people had been killed by orders from Artukovic. Among the killed were many women and children.

Artukovic has been arrested some days ago on ground of material furnished by the Yugoslav Consul in Los Angeles. However, according to the Convention signed in 1901, pursuant to which the extradition of Artukovic has been requested, all the indicting material has to be submitted to the American court within two months after the arrest of the defendant.

Extensive material proving Artukovic's crimes has been collected in Croatia. According to these documents it is evident that by direct orders from Artukovic, mass slaughters, burning down of villages, etc. in Eastern Bosnia had been carried out. He is also responsible for the killing of tens of thousands of Croats, Serbs, Jews, and Gypsies confined to various concentration camps. According to the available documents, Artukovic is also responsible for the killing by poison gas of 9,000 children. He caused the death of thousands of people of various creeds and nationality.